

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for transferring an electronic document to print media in exchange for payment, the method comprising:

- (a) discovering payment account information;
- (b) accepting an electronic document;
- (c) transferring the electronic document to print media;
- (d) determining a price for accepting the electronic document and transferring the electronic document to print media; and,
- (e) executing a payment transaction with the payment information, at the determined price.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein discovering the payment account information includes reading the payment account information from an encoded strip selected from the group consisting of a magnetic strip and an optical strip.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein discovering the payment account information includes receiving a transmission including the payment account information.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein accepting an electronic document includes receiving a transmission including the electronic document.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein determining a price for receiving and transferring the electronic document includes:

- (a) counting a number of pages of the electronic document; and,
- (b) multiplying the number of pages by a price per page

6. The method of claim 1 further including verifying the payment account information.

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 1 7. The method of claim 1 further including responsive to discovering the
 2 payment account information, activating the output apparatus to accept the electronic
 3 document and transfer the electronic document to print media.

1 8. An output apparatus for transferring an electronic document to print
 2 media in exchange for payment, the system comprising:

3 (a) a point of service terminal configured to discover payment
 4 account information;

5 (b) a communication interface configured to accept an electronic
 6 document;

7 (c) a transcriber configured to transfer the electronic document to
 8 print media;

9 (d) a tabulator configured to determine a price for accepting the
 10 electronic document and transferring the electronic document to print media; and,

11 (e) an invoicer configured to execute a payment transaction with
 12 the payment information, at the determined price.

1 9. The output apparatus of claim 8 wherein the point of service terminal
 2 includes a strip reader configured to read the payment account information from an
 3 encoded strip selected from the group consisting of a magnetic strip and an optical
 4 strip.

5 10. The output apparatus of claim 8 wherein the point of service terminal
 6 includes a receiver configured to receive a transmission including the payment
 7 account information.

1 11. The output apparatus of claim 8 wherein the communication interface
 2 includes a receiver configured to receive a transmission including the electronic
 3 document.

1 12. The output apparatus of claim 8 wherein the tabulator includes:

2 (a) a monitor configured to count a number of pages of the
 3 electronic document; and,

4 (b) a calculator configured to multiply the number of pages by a
5 price per page

1 13. The output apparatus of claim 8 further including an authenticator
2 configured to verify the payment account information.

1 14. The output apparatus of claim 8 further including an initializer
2 configured to respond to discovering the payment account information by activating
3 the output apparatus to accept the electronic document and transfer the electronic
4 document to print media.

1 15. A program storage system readable by a computer, tangibly
2 embodying a program, applet, or instructions executable by the computer to perform
3 method steps for transferring an electronic document to print media in exchange for
4 payment, the method steps comprising:

- 5 (a) discovering payment account information;
6 (b) accepting an electronic document;
7 (c) transferring the electronic document to print media;
8 (d) determining a price for accepting the electronic document and
9 transferring the electronic document to print media; and,
10 (e) executing a payment transaction with the payment information,
11 at the determined price.

1 16. The program storage system of claim 15 wherein the method step of
2 discovering the payment account information includes reading the payment account
3 information from an encoded strip selected from the group consisting of a magnetic
4 strip and an optical strip.

1 17. The program storage system of claim 15 wherein the method step of
2 discovering the payment account information includes receiving a transmission
3 including the payment account information.

1 18. The program storage system of claim 15 wherein the method step of
2 accepting an electronic document includes receiving a transmission including the
3 electronic document.

1 19. The program storage system of claim 17 wherein the method steps
2 further include verifying the payment account information.

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2 20. The program storage system of claim 15 wherein the method steps
3 further include responsive to discovering the payment account information, activating
4 the output apparatus to accept the electronic document and transfer the electronic
document to print media.

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